

# INDEXA

INFORMATION  
NET FREQUENCY  
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# INDEXA

ISSUE 31  
WINTER/SPRING 94/95

A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio, worldwide peace and friendship

## SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND

54°16'S GRYTVIKEN 36°30'W

# VP8SGP



YAESU

AMERITRON

Cushcraft

AEA

ETO

MFJ

CDXC

DX

DX

CLIFFSTON



CENTRAL MICHIGAN DX CLUB

DX



256 DX GROUP

A W4MPY QSL

The South Georgia Island DX-pedition team left SGI January 15 arriving in the Falklands January 19. Al, Jan and Vince returned to the USA January 24.

The team made over 18,000 VP8 contacts with 10,000 Q's on 30, 40 and 80M and 300+ on 160. Due to very poor propagation and the mountain ridge around the whaling station, 17, 15, 12 and 10m yielded less than 2000 Q's. The rest of the Q's were made on 20m. A good balance was achieved in the number of Q's to the USA and Europe. The number of Q's to JA were on the light side due to poor propagation into Asia.

Our operation was cut short by four days. We had originally planned to arrive at SGI January 19th. However, the scientists who had the primary charter on the research vessel had scheduling conflicts back home and had to fly back from Stanley on the 20th. Thus the ship had to leave from SGI on the 15th in order to arrive on the evening of the 19th.

Since the scheduling problems surfaced in late December after we arrived in the Falklands, the scientists (who are also the owners of the ship) allowed me to take Bob Valler, VP8BFH to help with setup, tear down and overall field camp maintenance. He also operated RTTY and some SSB. Approval to take a local ham was given only two hours before the ship departed. This was a gesture from the scientists to help us recover part of the four days lost by the early departure from SGI.

Weather wasn't a factor on this expedition. Temperature ranged in the 20s F at night and the 30s during the day. Winds ranged 30 to 65 mph. However, we were well prepared to secure all antennas and set up the stations and living quarters inside buildings that were part of the now abandoned whaling station.

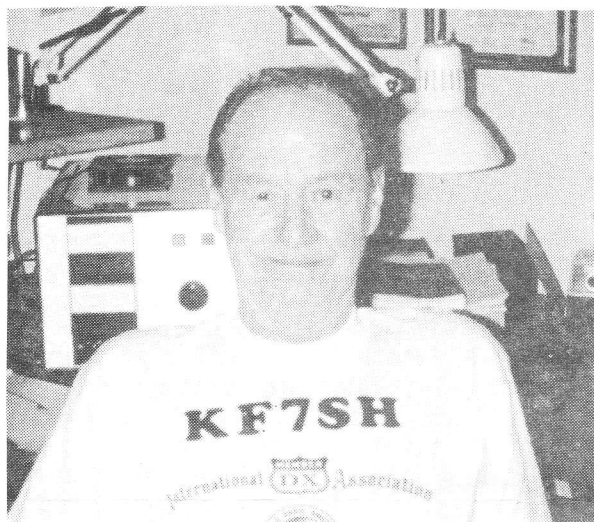
As a side note, I met Pat (VP8CID) and his wife Sarah (VP8CGE) who are residents on South Georgia Island until the end of April and will be back at SGI in August for another 8-month period. Pat is the Port Master and head of Fisheries representing the Falkland Island Government at SGI. We left them a Cushcraft A3S and a 50 foot mast. I volunteered to be their QSL manager and will keep a weekly schedule with them to get the log data.

The QSL for this operation was designed before we left on the trip and were printed as soon as the number of contacts were known. Man, this is the way to cooperate with a supporter and get the job done very fast. INDEXA takes care of the QSLing via John, W4FRU in Virginia. John has the cards for SGI and the 100 individual VP8 Falkland calls used by the operators. We will merge the logs electronically in order to print labels which should be ready in March.

This was a very cohesive team and everyone worked well together. Operators in Chile and the Falklands contributed a lot of time to this effort. Thanks to the pilot stations WA4DRU, W9ARV, K8CLA, VP8WA, VP8ALJ, XQ8ABF and CE8SFG who helped ensure our safety and passed out information during the trip.

Al Hernandez, WA3YVN, VP8CBC

# HUGH DEAN KF7SH SK



Mister Hugh. How many of us managed to get past the hard crust that is noticed when one first met him? Many did and are very thankful they can say they knew the real Hugh! Once you pass the many years of a loving husband and father, you find he was loyal to amateur radio. This was shown by giving of himself to help others, no matter what the need. In 1991, I had to find the right way to understand the real Hugh. He never claimed to be any more than he was. But to most, he stood high above the crowd. I guess being retired from the military and being a POW, for too long, in N.Korea in the 50's, would tend to change your outlook on life.

In talking to Hugh and his XYL, Marie, over the years, I was lucky enough to know the real Hugh. It is beyond me to give proper credit to

a fellow amateur as Hugh. I would like to use a changed version of a message written by R.J.Hastings many years ago. As we read it, know this was Hugh.

How restlessly we pace back and forth waiting for the good times to come our way. Soon we learn the true joy of life is found by just living it. If you try for too much, it will constantly outdistance us. Slow down and relish the moment. As written in Psalm 118:24: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that drive men mad. It is the regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who rob us of today.

So stop pacing the aisles and counting the days. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. 73/88

We respectfully request the members of INDEXA to consider a cause more needed than flowers at this time. This request is in agreement with family wishes.

In place of flowers, consider sending a nice card or letter to Hugh's XYL, Marie. It would be appreciated if any funds that would be spent on flowers, be sent instead to: Mrs. Marie Dean, 420 West Rose, Lebanon, OR 97355  
= Request the donation be used at her discretion =

Hugh became a SK on 2-22-95. Services were in Lebanon, OR on 2-25-95

## EXTRA HELP PROVIDED BY:

LA8CJ, K4GSK, N4UCJ, WA8BIJ, WA3WOD, WD4R, CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION, JH9XZG, N0BHC, KB2QDD, WA1PFC, XE1ZLW, DL6GV, CE3GN, W6/7K2SER, W7MBG, AB4HR, JG5UNQ, NORM, AA0TG, KC1MI, W1HEO, AB4SW, ZP5AZL, IK4AUY, LA1KJA, KA5RIP and IK2UEX.

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

WA3WOD, 7K2SER, 7N2UTO, N0OSS and IK2UEX

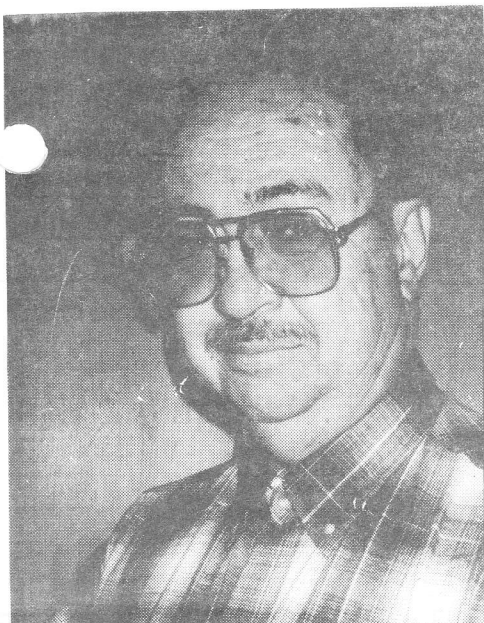
## : SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP:

: ZS6BGD by KC5HWR and SP4NKT by KF4FP

## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY:

Due to the amount of mail we receive concerning the printing of QSLs, the type of QSLs, the country location of the printer, we think the best way to handle this is by a survey. If you have good or bad points concerning anything connected with QSLing such as: Delay in receiving the card, type of card, size of card etc. Would you accept a standard one or two sided rather than the high cost folding just to receive it faster? Would you rather wait longer and receive the folding card? The types of questions can go forever but this is just a small part of what we have received. We welcome your comments, both from those waiting on the card to arrive and from the QSL managers who have problems. We are looking for the good comments also. The survey results will appear in the next issue. Do you have an amateur radio related comment/pet peeve that could be used in a survey? Let us know.

**SECRETARY'S NOTE:** We do not have access to a magic crystal ball so therefore it would help reduce the man hours needed for all renewals if just the mailing label off the newsletter is sent to us. The file is just too large to search for every member named Bill in California. The bad part is we must look at the envelope to find the state he is from. Help by giving the label info.  
Thanks



## STAFF MEMBER DOUG LAUBACH

**WQ7B**

From the land of the BIG SKY, we welcome Doug to the band of DXers who works for peanuts, but only when they are in season, for all other amateurs worldwide. He must have spent many hours on the radio since 1988 to have advanced as fast as he did in the award collection department, as per his following comments:

I became interested in amateur radio in 1988 and started out with a 2 meter mobile rig which was useful as a safety measure in the remote areas of Montana. In the spring of 1990, I planted a 60 foot tower, purchased a Yaesu 767 and became operational as a DXer. I received the plaques for Honor Roll, 5 Band DXCC +12 & 17 and also 5 Band WAS in 1994. (This fellow has done it all in about the same time it takes most of us to buy a good tower and rig) Since last fall, I have been working DXCC Mobile, so I have been busy. I'm the EC for my county, a VE and ARRL DXCC Field Rep.

Aside from the radio, I enjoy archery hunting for elk, usually to no avail, but the elk and I get a lot of good exercise. Other interest include photography, reloading ammo, bow making, and my 69 Corvette. I have B.S. and M.E. degrees, majors in mathematics and physics, taught those subjects for 15 years, then worked as a computer graphics programmer for several years. Currently, I'm a grain farmer in northeast Montana.

73/88 Doug WQ7B



Our Kiwi Brother from down under in ZL land answered the demands for a good Chatham Is. operation in late 94.

The dxpedition wasn't as cold as usual and appeared to be quite dry. This time I took the big A.E.A. amp. It was very useful and a big bonus on 80 & 160.

In the short stay, I made about 7000 CW operators happy and at least 1000 on the other mode, SSB. Band conditions really put a hurting on this trip. I managed a big total of 30 Qs on 160. The 28.MHZ was almost a loss but pushed about 300 contacts on RTTY.

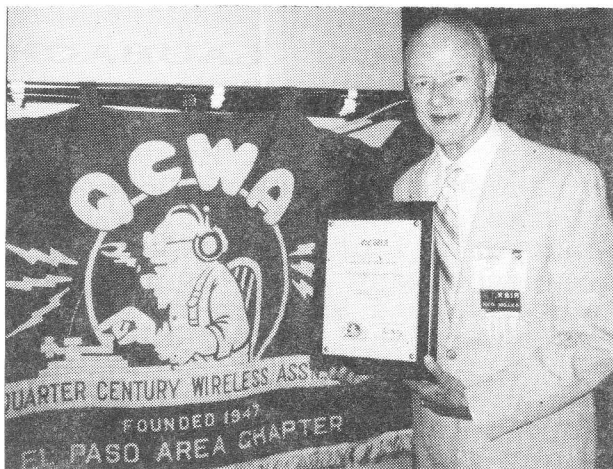
I know one thing for sure. The next trip will work better if I put up Vee beams and Rhombics. If you have any spare wire you don't need, send it prepaid.

73/88 Ron ZL1AMO/ZL7AMO

Our man in Hong Kong, Phil Weaver, VS6CT will be on the QE2 after retirement from 28 Febuary until 13 April when he arrives in UK land. Phil has desided to stay in Hong Kong after his retirement. He will leave the UK on 22 April for the USA and then back to the UK in August for six weeks. From there he will return to Hong Kong when he shall move the QTH to a better location for antennas. The new QTH is on the west end of the island in a complex called Bagio Villas. Until Phil has returned to Hong Kong, all mail may go via G.P.O. 12727, Hong Kong.

**MEMBER NOTE:** As a member, have you ever thought about what you could do to help ? Try getting just one DXer friend to join. Or the friend who isn't a member but depends on the info sessions on 14236 to obtain his needed QSL route.





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